



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Statistics of New Munster, New Zealand, down to 1848, compiled from Official Records in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

[Read before the Statistical Society of London, in continuation of the preceding Paper, 17th February, 1851.]

THE preceding account of Auckland supplies a valuable outline of the condition of the northern portion of the Northern Island of New Zealand, commonly called New Ulster; and the following pages are appended to it as a complete summary of the statistics of the remainder of this interesting colony, forming the province of New Munster, divided into four districts. The first is that of Wellington, forming, with Wanganui or Petre, the southern part of the Northern Island. Next to this, on the opposite side of Cook's Strait, lies the district of Nelson, comprising the northern end of the Middle Island, half way down to Banks's Peninsula. The Middle Island, it should be observed, might more appropriately be called the Southern, in opposition to the Northern Island, separated from it by Cook's Strait; that which bears the name of the Southern Island being of comparatively very small extent and little value; insomuch that it does not enter at all into the present statements. The districts of Akaroa and Otago comprehend all the remaining portions of the Middle Island, which are nearer those settlements respectively. The names of Wanganui and Petre are applied indiscriminately to the settlement on the northern shore of Cook's Strait.

The returns are compiled from materials furnished by a general census taken in August 1848, and from those supplied for the ordinary Colonial Blue Book at the end of each year. This will account for some discrepancies in the totals of different returns respecting the same subjects, for which the authorities are indicated.

Population.

In the years 1845 and 1846, the population of New Munster had decreased 5·68 per cent. from its amount in 1844; but in 1847 and 1848 it increased 20·62 per cent. on its amount at the end of 1846. In Wellington, during the latter ten years, the increase was 17·06 per cent., in Nelson 9·00 per cent.

Years.	Europeans.		Strangers or Aliens.	Total.
	Males.	Females.		
1843.....	3,826	3,133	150	7,109
1844.....	4,029	3,296	500	7,825
1845.....	4,008	3,367	206	7,581
1846.....	3,944	3,348	89	7,381
1847.....	4,273	3,556	175	7,973
1848.....	6,200	4,283	10,483

Place of Birth of the Population, as taken in August 1848.

Born in the Colony.		In England.		In Wales.		In Ireland.		In Scotland.		In other British Colonies.		In Foreign Countries.	
Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.
1·132	1·133	2·522	1·909	22	25	170	105	597	442	150	65	174	97
26·51		51·86		·55		3·26		12·16		2·39		3·17	

The number of registered births is no guide to the actual number that took place in the province in 1848, as it is certain that very many occurred which were never registered. But even those that were, amounted to 3·55 per cent. on the population at the end of 1847. An approximation may, however, be made to the real rate of increase by births, by comparing the number of children in the province under two years of age (p. 252,) with the numbers of the population at the end of the years 1845-6-7. As the returns for those years were taken in December of each year, and the return of children in August, 1848, the population returned at the periods mentioned may be considered the correct number of those of whom the children were the produce. The average population of these three years was 7,645 souls. The number of children under two years (deducting those belonging to Otago, the inhabitants of which settlement arrived in 1848), that is, the number born between August 1846, and August, 1848, was 760, which gives an average of 380 for each year. The increase consequently on the population in 1846 and 1847 was at the rate of 4·95, or nearly 5 per cent. per annum by births alone. The deaths in 1848 were only ·81 per cent. on the population of that year; the number who died being included in its amount. This would give 4·14 for the actual rate of annual increase of the population, exclusive of immigration. In Great Britain, the increase of population for ten years, 1831-41 (allowing for emigration) was 15·02 per cent., or only 1·50 per annum; and the per-centage above given is too low for New Munster, as the births of those who died under two years of age are omitted in the calculation. It will be seen that there are, exclusive of the military, more than four times as many English as Scotch in the province, and nearly four times as many Scotch as Irish. The foreigners are principally Germans, and the French at Akaroa. The total number of emigrants introduced by the New Zealand Company into Wellington, Nelson, and New Plymouth, was 8,904 souls, at a cost of 233,543*l.*, or 26*l.* per head, including cabin passengers.

Age, Sex, and Condition of the Population in 1848.

	Number of each Age.	
	Males.	Females.
Under 2 years of age	381	423
2 „ and under 7	858	821
7 „ „ 14	708	619
14 „ „ 21	539	433
21 „ „ 45	1,948	1,298
45 „ „ 60	301	179
60 „ and upwards	25	10
Total.....	4,760	3,783
Married	1,423	1,421
Single	3,337	2,382

Immigration and Emigration. The returns of immigrants and emigrants are mere lists of arrivals and departures. The only result, apparently, that can be obtained on this subject is an approximation to the excess of re-emigration over the immigration that has taken place, independently of that set on foot by the New Zealand Company in the first colonization of the country. Deducting from the total population of August 1848, which amounted to 8,543, the number *then* existing of persons *born in* the colony, which is shown to have been 2,264, we have 6,279 immigrants still in the province. Taking the whole number introduced by the New Zealand Company at 8,904 souls, and allowing 1,200 for New Plymouth, we have 7,704 for New Munster. If the number of immigrants at present in the colony be subtracted from this, the remainder is 1,423, which represents the excess of loss by death and re-emigration over gain by immigration, other than that caused by the New Zealand Company in founding the settlements of the province. As the deaths in question, by a calculation from the loose return we have of them, amount to between 400 and 500, the excess of loss by re-emigration would be about 1,000. The actual number of them that belonged to the body sent out by the Company the returns do not enable us to ascertain. The following table exhibits the amount of immigration and emigration to and from New Munster in the year ended 5th January, 1849:—

Immigration.				Emigration.			
Adults.		Number of Children.	Total.	Adults.		Number of Children.	Total.
Males.	Females.			Males.	Females.		
570	235	287	1,092	247	65	53	365

The chief excess of immigration is into Otago.

Medical Statistics.

The hospital returns chiefly relate to the natives, and show conclusively that the diseases most frequent among them are those arising from want of good food, good shelter, and cleanliness; perhaps also from the absence of habits of industry. The following were the centesimal proportions of disease treated at the Wellington Hospital.

Fever.....	14.6		
Rheumatic Diseases.....	11.1	Abscess.....	8.9
Inflammation of Lungs	8.8	Ulcers.....	3.0
Consumption.....	4.7	Hakihaki.....	8.6
Cough and Catarrh	3.8	Scrofulous Diseases.....	5.4
	28.4		25.9
Contusions, Burns, &c.	5.4		
Ophthalmia	4.1		
Syphilis and Gonorrhoea	4.7		
Sixteen other Complaints.....	15.9		
			30.1
Total.....	99.0		

Thus 71 per cent. of the cases of disease may be attributed to the causes above stated, for the 4.1 of cases of ophthalmia most probably arose from the habit of living in huts filled with wood-smoke. Of the 158 patients treated at the Colonial Hospital, from September 1847, to March 1848, 142 were cured, 15 died, and 1 was discharged as incurable; and from March 1848 to March 1849, of 197 treated, 185 were cured, 9 died, and 3 were discharged as incurable. Of the above, the greater number, as shown by the returns, came from the neighbourhood of Wellington and the West Coast, as far as Wanganui, and belonged to the Ngatiawa. Of the patients treated in 1848, 137 were in-door and 178 out-door.

Occupations.

Of the whole number of mechanics and craftsmen in the province no less than 54 per cent. were carpenters, joiners, splitters of wood, or sawyers. Of the 2,548 persons in the province following specific pursuits, there were 37.5 per cent. belonging to the labouring class engaged in pastoral or agricultural pursuits, 30.5 per cent. of mechanics and craftsmen, and 5.3 of marines and fishermen. The return of persons holding special licences for the sale of spirits affords a standard of the gradual spread of the settlers over the interior of the country since 1845; since one of the first symptoms of traffic commencing in a new direction, is the licensed house for the accommodation of travellers.

The number of houses licensed for the sale of spirits, &c., in 1848, was 10 in Wellington, 7 in Nelson, 1 in Akawa, and 3 in Otago, being in all 21.

The annexed table exhibits the distribution of occupations among the population of New Munster, in August 1848.

<i>Members of Professions.</i>		
Lawyers, Clergymen, Surgeons, } Military Officers, and Surveyors }	84	
<i>Capitalists and Employers of Labour.</i>		
Land Proprietors, Farmers, and } Merchants	253	
Manufacturers, Brewers, and Mil- } lers	15	
Shopkeepers and Retail Dealers	105	
Total.....	457	
<i>In Permanent Employ of Individuals, but not Manual Labourers.</i>		
Clerks and Overseers.....	106	
<i>Manual Labourers:</i>		
<i>Mechanics and Craftsmen.</i>		
Printers	16	
Sawyers and Splitters.....	147	
Carpenters and Joiners	192	
Brickmakers	16	
Bricklayers	25	
Masons and Plasterers	18	
Smiths	47	
Tanners	4	
Saddle and Harness Makers	3	
Shoemakers	99	
Tailors	26	
Butchers	23	
Bakers	30	
Of Crafts not specified	133	
Total.....	779	
<i>Pastoral and Agricultural Labourers.</i>		
Husbandmen	654	
Shepherds.....	77	
Keepers of Horned Cattle	146	
Farm Servants, including Gardeners ..	78	
Total.....	955	
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>		
Carters	44	
Mariners and Fishermen	135	
Domestic Servants { Male	72	
{ Female	192	
<i>Persons following no specific Trade or Calling.</i>		
Naval and Military Pensioners	7	
Males—principally Children	2,198	
Females, Adults, and Children	3,490	
Paupers, or receiving Alms.....	...	
Strangers and Visitors.....	13	
Grand Total.....	8,448	

Production.

In the whole province a steady increase in cultivation has been maintained since 1843, the greatest being in 1845-6. In the district of Nelson the number of acres cropped in 1844-5-6 increased at the rate of 1000 a-year, though the population in the same years was decreasing.

Comparative Table of the Quantity of Land (in Acres) in Cultivation in the Province of New Munster, for the Years from 1843 to 1848 inclusive.

Years.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Pasture.	Total.	
						In Crop.	In Cultiva- tion.
1843.....	43	8	12	14	132	1,200	1,382
1844.....	1,026	181	286	510	210	2,003	2,213
1845.....	1,585	297	569	536	291	2,993	2,384
1846.....	1,983	289	1,032	332	488	3,714	4,202
1847.....	1,990	327	1,192	613	825	4,123	4,948
1848.....	1,957	582	1,165	617	1,581	4,322	5,903

Stock. In the years 1843-4-5 horned cattle increased in the settlement of Wellington at the rate of 400 a-year; in 1846-7, of 200 a-year; and in 1848 the increase was 2014. In Nelson the number of horned cattle in 1848 was 1500 greater than in 1847; and sheep, which had increased at the rate of 3000 a-year during 1843-4-5-6, increased by 10,000 in 1847, and by 17,000 in 1848. This was the consequence of the opening of the Wairau districts to flock-owners.

Comparative Return of the Amount of Stock in the various Settlements of the Province of New Munster in the Year 1848.

Settlements.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Goats.	Pigs.
Wellington	672	6,786	35,507	1,111	2,008
Petre	67	886	582	178	15
Nelson	234	3,540	37,699	5,353	3,230
	8*	5*	200*	5,500*
Akaroa	16	679	4,396	310	627
Otago	103	781	7,731	206	1,635
Totals.....	1,002 8*	12,672 5*	85,915	7,158 200*	6,924 5,000*

The figures to which asterisks are attached describe stock which is the property of the aboriginal inhabitants, which is returned only for Nelson, although they possess in the other settlements a considerable number of horses and some cattle.

The whole province contained (in 1848) 96 buildings of stone or brick, 1,008 of wood, and 633 of other materials, making a total of 1,737, besides 1,465 outbuildings. The total number of vessels belonging to New Munster in that year, owned by Europeans, was 31, with a tonnage amounting to 844, and by natives 8, with a tonnage amounting to 121. The rent drawn by the aboriginal inhabitants from Europeans, in 1848, amounted to 844*l.* 10*s.*, and the amount of mortgages outstanding to 20,831*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*

Imports and Exports.

The articles imported into the colony in greatest quantities are flour, tea, sugar, live stock, beer, wine, spirits, and tobacco. It is satisfactory to observe that the importation of flour into Wellington from beyond seas has been declining since 1846, while the quantity imported coastwise has been proportionately increasing. From the returns of coastwise imports for one quarter, it appears that 100 tons must have been so imported in 1848.

The whaling establishments of Wellington are rather on the decline; the value of the oil produced by them in 1843 having been 32,680*l.*, while in 1848, it was only 14,808*l.*, obtained by 2 ships and 28 boats, taking 175 tons of sperm and 302 of black oil; valued, the former at 50*l.* and the latter at 14*l.* per ton. The stations extend from the Bay of Plenty to Foveaux Straits, and are not all therefore comprised within the province of New Munster.

Imports and Exports in 1848.

	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports.
	£	£	£
Wellington	75,764	20,902	54,862
Nelson	21,879	1,973	19,906
Otago	11,767	11,767
Total	109,412	22,875	86,537

This return gives sufficient cause for solicitude, but it must be borne in mind that it exhibits no normal state of things, and that the excess of imports indicates in great part merely an importation of capital for a future return as in the Nelson and Otago districts; in the former, consequent on the acquisition of the Wairau, when great quantities of sheep and cattle were immediately introduced. Another source of the excess of imports over exports is the commissariat expenditure, which was only temporary. The chief exports are oil, whalebone, skins, and above all, *wool*, which is the rising staple produce of the colony. The coasting trade is chiefly in bacon, pork, butter, flour and grain, colonial produce, oil and whalebone, sheep and cattle, skins, timber, wool, flax and ropes, potatoes, oysters, and limestone and shells. The total returns of shipping, inwards and outwards, for 1846-7-8 show a gradually increasing trade; and the number of men in British and British-colonial ships amounted to 1,054 in the latter year.

Native Trade. No return of the exact quantities of particular articles was kept till the last quarter of 1848. The produce imported from the east coast of the Northern Island is entirely grown by the native population, and much of that from the west coast. So with respect to Queen Charlotte's Sound. The number of tons employed in this trade amounted in 1848 to 6,044, the tonnage of each vessel being multiplied by its number of trips. When in addition to the Maori produce thus imported, the quantity brought by land into Wellington is taken into consideration, as well as the money spent, chiefly among the natives, in the construction of roads (about 17,000*l.* in 1848), it will be apparent what a powerful agency for imparting the most effective kind of civilization is brought to bear upon them by the existence of the settlement of Wellington with its government expenditure. The work on the roads gives them regular habits and a knowledge of the implements of industry; while they are encouraged and stimulated to persevere in it by the tempting market and ready remuneration the settlement offers for its fruits. The resources of the colony are at the same time developed, and the best guarantee provided for the preservation of peace. The system of road-making is, in fact, a native school of industry, and the effects of attendance at it are seen, not only in the personal benefits, physical and moral, which *work* must unquestionably confer on the aboriginal people; but in the spread of their cultivation, the increase of their property and trade, and, as a necessary consequence, their more willing submission to European law.

Wages and Provisions. The wages of domestic servants at Wel-

lington are 20*l.* a-year, of predial servants, 35*l.*, and of artizans, 7*s.* 6*d.* a-day, while beef and mutton are 6½*d.*, and bread 2*d.* per lb.

Revenue and Expenditure of the Province of New Munster from 1840 to 1843 inclusive.

Years.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1840	836	5 9	1,550	19 11
1841	4,425	9 2	3,418	0 4
1842	13,154	0 9	6,365	6 6
1843	12,592	17 2	8,356	18 5
1844	8,602	12 11	7,919	2 2
1845	6,341	6 0	11,214	8 0
1846	9,098	8 9	25,162	7 4
1847	15,515	5 3	46,150	3 2
1848	16,376	2 4	42,111	1 2

The receipts in aid were for 1846, 21,671*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*; 1847, 33,850*l.*; and 1848, 27,750*l.* These are derived from a Parliamentary grant.

For the year ended 31st March, 1849, the total revenue of Wellington was 17,747*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, to which 21,450*l.* was added by a grant in aid, making a total of 39,197*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, while the expenditure, including 16,908*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* on roads, was 41,062*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*; so that the grants in aid may be considered in great part as a subsidy to the natives for road-making, while the general revenue promises ultimately to meet the general expenditure, composed of the items already enumerated in the account of Auckland. In Nelson settlement, the fixed revenue amounted in the same year to 2,087*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*, and the grant in aid to 1,100*l.* making a total of 3,187*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*, while the expenditure was 3,301*l.* 7*s.*, including 258*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* on roads. In Otago settlement the fixed income was 1,258*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* while the expenditure was 1,091*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* In Akawa the revenue was 84*l.* 17*s.* the grant in aid 350*l.*, making a total of 434*l.* 17*s.* and the expenditure 438*l.* 18*s.* In Wangarui the income was 63*l.* 1*s.*, and the expenditure 399*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*

Moral Condition.

Education. The conclusions to be drawn from the educational returns are much less definite and decisive than would have been the case had the numbers of those acquainted with, or ignorant of, the elementary arts of reading and writing been classified more completely according to their ages.

Number of Persons in the Province of New Munster able and not able to Read and Write.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Cannot read.....	1,286	1,234	2,520
Can read only	875	862	1,737
Can read and write	2,602	1,664	4,266
Total	4,763	3,760	8,523

Day and Sunday Schools in the Province of New Munster in 1848.

Classes of Schools.	Number of Schools	Scholars.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
<i>Day Schools.</i>				
Private.....	13	251	142	393
Church of England.....	7	235	159	394
Scotch Presbyterian.....	1	22	26	48
Wesleyan.....	4	188	124	312
Roman Catholic.....	1	30	5	35
Independent, Primitive Methodist, } German Lutheran, &c..... }	5	83	48	166
Non-Sectarian.....	11	115	109	361
Totals.....	42	924	613	1,709
<i>Sunday Schools.</i>				
Church of England.....	6	182	138	332
Scotch Presbyterian.....	2	47	51	98
Wesleyan.....	4	33	34	67
Roman Catholic.....	1	30	5	35
Non-Sectarian.....	8	195	220	420
Totals.....	21	487	454	952

The number of professed members of the Church of England is 4,408, of Wesleyans 1,225, of other Protestant dissenters 2,219, of Roman Catholics 537, of Jews at the town of Wellington 28, and of those professing to belong to no particular religious sect 246. The places of worship were 9 Church of England, 1 Church of Scotland, 7 Wesleyan, 7 others of Protestant Dissenters, and 3 Roman Catholic.

The results of a comparison of the proportion of the population unable to write and read, with the corresponding proportion in England and Wales, appear to be greatly in favour of New Zealand; the proportion throughout England and Wales in 1844 of those signing the marriage-registers with marks was 40·8 per cent. of the whole number signing. Though this may be too high a per-centage for the whole population at the present time (as most of the males under 20 and females under 15 may be considered as excluded, and the education of the young had advanced since the portion of the population included in the marriage-register was of an age to receive it, so that a return comprising the former would *lower* the per centage,) yet the proportion, it may be presumed, would even then be much greater than in New Munster, where those above 7 years old, unable to write, are only 29·3 per cent. of the population above 7. This comparison is on too limited a scale perhaps to warrant general conclusions; but it seems to suggest, what more extended observation will probably prove to be the case, that emigration is most frequent among the better educated of the labouring classes at home—that education, in short, is a great promoter of emigration.

The proportionate numbers receiving education, compared with those at home, seem also very creditable to New Munster. Of those

between the ages of 2 and 14 (the only periods up to 15 specified in the returns), the centesimal proportion in New Munster receiving *daily* education was 58·66, a per-centage which would be increased could the number under 5 years be deducted from both sides of the proportion. Even in Scotland the proportion of those receiving education in 1837, was only 31·41 per cent., and to the per-centage of New Munster should be added those attending Sunday schools alone, an amount not ascertainable from the returns as made.

In England and Wales,* in 1833, the proportion receiving daily education in schools of all kinds was 30·7 per cent. The fact, however, still remains, that there are about 26·8 per cent. of the children, between the ages of 5 and 14, (deducting three-fifths from the number between 2 and 7, to get an approximation to that between 5 and 7,) who are receiving no *daily* education in schools in New Munster. It is indisputable, therefore, that even allowing for private instruction at home, a great deal is left to be done in the way of education in the province.

The proportion of those receiving daily education, to the whole number between 2 and 14 years, is 61·78 per cent. at Wellington, 56·89 at Nelson, and 35·55 at Otago. It is highly creditable to the founder and promoters of the Nelson schools that their per-centage is so high as it is; for the centesimal proportion of the inhabitants of the town and suburbs is, in Nelson 42·4 to the whole population, while at Wellington (including Wade's Town, but not Karori or Porirua-road), it is 56·4 per cent. This much greater dispersion of the population over rural districts makes provision for the education of the children far more difficult.

Criminal Statistics.

The committals in the whole province in 1848 were 17, and the convictions 10; the average of this and the 4 preceding years being 25 and 13½; and during this period the total number put on trial was 92, of whom 31 were from New South Wales, Hobart Town, or Parkhurst, 25 soldiers, 14 sailors and unknown, 18 original settlers, and 4 natives. In 1848 the summary convictions were, for assault 38, for drunkenness 82, for larceny 13, and for other offences 77. The average centesimal proportions of convictions to committals was in 1848, in Wellington 60·31, in Nelson only 37·50, or about twice as many convictions per cent. on committals in the former place as in the latter. The average for the five years throughout New Munster is considerably below the per-centage in England, where 72·14 per cent. of committals end in convictions, or in Scotland, where 74·91 per cent. have this result.

This may in some degree be accounted for by the necessary imperfection of the means for securing the punishment of offenders in a young colony, and especially in one where the settlements are dispersed along so extensive a sea-coast as that of New Zealand—where the class most given to breaches of the law can pass so easily out of the reach of justice, and the expense of bringing witnesses to the place of trial is unavoidably great. The convictions for all offences, excluding those of natives, before the supreme court in the district of Wellington, taking an average of the 5 years ending December 31,

1848, bore to its population the proportion of 1 conviction to every 556 souls; the committals 1 to every 338 souls. In Nelson the corresponding proportions were, of convictions 1 to every 1641, and committals, 1 to every 753 souls.

Thus convictions in Wellington were three times as many as in Nelson, in proportion to their respective population, and committals something more than twice as many; and the committals throughout New Munster in these 5 years were in the ratio of 1 in every 400 souls. In England and Wales, in 1841, they were only 1 in every 573, and in Scotland only 1 in every 738. This unfavourable result may, as far as the settlers are concerned, be satisfactorily accounted for, inasmuch as a reference to the table shows from what source the large amount of crime proceeds. If from 88 criminals during the 5 years be deducted those of prisoners from New South Wales and Hobart Town, and the free from Parkhurst, it will be found that the amount of committals is reduced by one-third ($88 - 31 = 57$), which gives a proportion of 1 committal to every 464 of the population, when the per-centage (2.39) from the British colonies, in 1848, which may be taken as the proportion of the other years, has been deducted from the average population with which the committals are compared. Again, deducting in addition to these, the committals of soldiers from one side of the proportion, and the number of military from the other, we have the committals diminished by nearly two-thirds ($88 - 56 = 32$), or 1 to every 697 souls, a much smaller proportion than in England; and if again the committals of sailors and persons whose previous country was not known be omitted from the calculation, there will be left for committals among original settlers only one-fifth of the whole ($88 - 70 = 18$). The exact proportion to the corresponding population cannot be determined in this last case, because the number to be subtracted from the population is not ascertainable; but it is clear that it would be such as to make the comparison with either Scotland or England a very favourable one for Wellington. In Nelson the proportion, including all classes, is less than either of these countries.

The evils of the neighbourhood of penal colonies are shown by the fact first proved, that one-third of all the crime of the province for the last five years has been supplied thence; and this may in some degree account for the small proportion of convictions to committals noticed above—so large a number of the prisoners committed having been old offenders, most probably long practised in all the arts of eluding justice.

With reference to civil cases, the returns indicate from the considerable increase in the number and the proportion of cases settled out of court, that the extended powers given to the magistrates have operated beneficially for the public, and that a greater amount of business in both the criminal and civil departments of summary jurisdiction can be efficiently carried on in the single court than in the two together which previously existed, namely, the Police Magistrates' and the Court of Requests. In 1848, 385 civil cases were disposed of in the Resident Magistrate's Court in New Munster.

It may be mentioned that there are 25 natives among those appointed assessors in New Munster, under the resident magistrates' ordinance; and that out of the total sum of 562*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*, deposited

in the Wellington Savings' Bank in 1848, 196*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* belonged to friendly, religious, and benevolent societies, and 86*l.* to 6 native depositors; the remainder belonging to 52 European depositors. The total number of letters and newspapers received at and despatched from the Wellington Post Office in the same year was 60,089, the newspapers being somewhat in excess of the letters; and of these 18,492 were to and from London, 13,814 to and from Auckland, 7,378 to and from Sydney, 8,066 to and from Nelson, 3,853 to and from New Plymouth, 4,579 to and from Petre, &c.

It is hoped that an analysis so authentic of the colonial life of our most distant and not least interesting dependency will be found well worthy of the record which is here granted to it: and it will not be inaptly concluded in the following terms employed by a gentleman of the best information resident at Wellington, and dated on the 28th of January in the present year, 1851. "The total European population of New Zealand is now about 25,000. The natives number about 80,000, chiefly in the north. They are decidedly decreasing, owing to a great deficiency of women and very few children. In about twelve or fifteen years, I believe, the European population will be 50,000, and may be even more, and the native population will probably be reduced to about the same number. The chief wealth of the colony consists in cattle and sheep, of which the latter now number 200,000; and doubling every other year, we shall in six years have at least 1,000,000, yielding about 3*s.* each per annum in wool, or 150,000*l.* The plains of Canterbury, which I have just visited, are admirably adapted for both cattle and sheep, and I have no doubt that this will soon be a very flourishing settlement; but I doubt whether the Association will find the sale of land such as to enable them to meet their expenditure."

PROCEEDINGS OF THE STATISTICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

Seventh Ordinary Meeting. 19th May, 1851.

The Rev. E. Wyatt-Edgell in the Chair.

Mr. T. J. Brown, (the Assistant Secretary,) read a Paper on the National Debts and Revenues in proportion to the extent of Area and Population of the various European States.

Eighth Ordinary Meeting. 16th June 1851.

The Right Honourable Lord Overstone, President, in the Chair.

Mr. F. G. P. Neison read a Paper on the Mortality from Intemperate Lives.

Mr. Kennedy brought before the Meeting a notice of the Census of the United States for 1850, and explained the mode of collecting it.

M. Quetelet exhibited Maps of Criminal Statistics in England and Wales.